IMO. Fools are not mad folks[6].
CLO. Do you call me fool ?
IMO. As I am mad, I do: If you'll be patient, I'll no more be mad ; That cures us both. I am much sorry, sir, You put me to forget a lady's manners, By being so verbal[7]: and learn now, for all, That I, which know my heart, do here pronounce, By the very truth of it, I care not for you ; And am so near the lack of charity, (To accuse myself) I hate you: which I had rather You felt, than make't my boast.
CLO. You sin against
Obedience, which you owe your father. For The contract[8] you pretend with that base wretch, (One, bred of alms, and foster'd with cold dishes, With scraps o' the court,) it is no contract, none: And though it be allowed in meaner parties, (Yet who, than he more mean ?) to knit their
souls
(On whom there is no more dependency But brats and beggary) in self-figur'd knot[9] ;

[6] Fools are not mad folks.] This, as Cloten very well understands it, is a covert mode of calling him fool. The meaning implied is this: If I am mad. as you tell me,, I am what you can never be, " Fools are not mad folks." STEEVENS.

[7] —so VERBAL :] Is, so *verbose,* so full of talk. JOHNSON.

[8] The contract, &c.] Here Shakspeare has not preserved, with his common nicety, the uniformity of his character. The speech of Cloten is rough and harsh, but certainly not the talk of one—

"Who can't take two from twenty; for his heart,
" And leave eighteen ."

His argument is just and well enforced, and its prevalence is allowed throughout all civil nations: as for rudeness, he seems not to be much undermatched. JOHNSON.

9—in SELF-FIGUR'D knot;] This is nonsense. We should read—self-finger'd knot, i. e. A knot solely of their own tying, without any regard to parents, or other more publick considerations. WAR BURTON.

But why nonsense? A *selffigured Jcnot* is a knot formed by yourself. JOHNSON.